GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:166
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2017
Financial Support to Weavers/Artisans
Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are schemes which financially support Weavers/Artisans in the handloom sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *166 FOR ANSWER ON 27-07-2017

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The following schemes are being implemented by the Government of India through the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, which financially support handloom weavers in the handloom sector:-

1. NATIONAL HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NHDP):

NHDP aims at the development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers through various interventions like cluster programme, marketing assistance, concessional credit etc.

2. YARN SUPPLY SCHEME (YSS):

Yarn Supply scheme is meant to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price to the eligible handloom weavers so as to facilitate regular supply of basic raw materials to the handloom sector and help utilize the full employment potential of the sector. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation, a Government of India Undertaking. Under the scheme the freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies.

3. COMPREHENSIVE HANDLOOM CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT SCHEME:

The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) aims at the integrated and holistic development of mega handloom clusters, having at least 15000 handlooms per cluster, with financial assistance up to Rs. 40.00 crore per cluster by the Government of India.

4. HATHKARGHA SAMVARDHAN SAHAYATA (HSS):

Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released directly in the Bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.

5. EDUCATION OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS AND THEIR CHILDREN:

Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling(NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialized subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programs through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

6. HANDLOOM WEAVERS" COMPREHENSIVE WELFARE SCHEME:

This scheme has the following two components:-

(i) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana(MGBBY) for providing life insurance cover to the handloom weavers in case of natural / accidental death, total / partial disability due to accident. Handloom Weavers in the age group of 18 − 50 years have been migrated to Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana w.e.f. 1st June, 2017, whereas Handloom Weavers in the age group of 51-59 years continue to get coverage under MGBBY.

(ii) Health Insurance Scheme (HIS) for providing health care facilities to the handlooms weavers in the country have been subsumed in the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana since 29th March, 2016.
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